

REMARKS

Claims 1-4, 6 and 8 have been rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as anticipated by Mabuchi. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Referring to Figs. 4A and 4B of Mabuchi, the detection circuit 12 receives any signal g and demodulates it. However, the circuit is not able to distinguish reshaped signals from non-reshaped signals. Hence, there will be no difference in the output of the detection circuit for a reshaped signal or a non-reshaped signal. That is, the form of signal h in Fig. 4B will be the same either way. This is also explained in the instant specification, on page 2, first full paragraph, where it stats that “using conventional, inductively acting receivers, to distinguish whether the field strength has been reduce or the reshaping described above has been switched on, and because the reshaping cannot be reproduced by conventional transmitters, either.”

In the claimed invention, on the other hand, the detector 16, 40 is able to distinguish reshaped signals from non-reshaped signals (see, for example, claim 1 requiring that “the reshaping can be detected by a detector in the receiver”). More specifically, this is accomplished by using sensor 40 which converts a magnetic flag’s density or a magnetic field strength to an electrical voltage or current, e.g. a sensor in the form of a hall sensor (see, for example, page 5 of the instant specification). Consequently, since reshaping can be detected by the detector, it is possible for a receiver or detector to detect whether a signal is coming from a predetermined transmitter (see, for example, page 4, lines 1-4). A signal which has been subjected to reshaping and transmitted by the transmitter can consequently be reliably identified in the receiver, unlike in the applied prior art.

Since the recited structure and method are not disclosed by the applied prior art, claims 1 and 3 are patentable. Claim 2, depending from claim 1, and claims 4, 6 and 8, depending from claim 3, are similarly patentable.

Claim 7 has been rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as unpatentable over Mabuchi in view of Quist. The rejection is respectfully traversed for the same reasons presented in the arguments above, and since Quist fails to disclose that reshaping can be detected by a detector in the receiver.

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the outstanding rejection of the claims and to pass this application to issue. If it is determined that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number given below.

In the event the U.S. Patent and Trademark office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicant petitions for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to Deposit Account No. 03-1952 referencing docket no. 449122004000. However, the Commissioner is not authorized to charge the cost of the issue fee to the Deposit Account.

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Respectfully submitted,

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